

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 00043 120212Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
AGRE-00 EB-08 /100 W
-----123844 120600Z /21

R 120130Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8887
INFO /MEMBASSY BANGKOJV8677
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0043

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EAID LA
SUBJECT: LAO REQUEST FOR FOOD AID

REF: A VIENTIANE 0017, B VIENTIANE 0020, C HONG KONG
0235, D STATE 004304

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC
COMMUNITY HERE IN VIENTIANE INDICATED THAT THE LAO
ASKED FOR FOODSAID FROM THOSE EMBASSIES AND U.U.
OFFICES WHOSE HOME GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES HAD NOT YET
OFFERED FOOD TO LAOS AS A RESULT OF EARLIER APPEALS.
THE AUSTRALIANS, FOR EXAMPLE, HAD PREVIOUSLY OFFERED
1,000 TONS OF RICE (NOT YET DELIVERED) AND WERE THUS
ASKED IN THIS MOST RECENT APPEAL FOR DIESEL IRRIGATION
PUMPS TO HELP IMPROVE THE CURRENT DRY SEASON RICE CROP.
THE UNICEF OFFICE WAS ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE FOOD COMMODITIES
EVEN THOUGH THIS IS NOT THE NORMAL TYPE OF UNICEF AID.
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2. IN A JANUARY 11 CALL ON SOUBANH SRITHIRATH, CHEF DE
CABINET (PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY) IN THE LAO FOREIGN
MINISTRY, THE CHARGE AGAIN WENT OVER THE DIFFICULTY

THE LAO REQUEST WILL HAVE IN OVERCOMING POPULAR AND CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION IN THE UNITED STATES. ALTHOUGH EXPLAINING THE DETAILS OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL POLOTICS TO SOUBANH WAS SOMETHING LIKE EXPLAINING SOLID GEOMETRY TO A PERSON WHOSE WORLD HAS ONLY TWO DIMENSIONS, THE CHARGE FEELS HE WAS SUCCESSFUL IN LETTING SOUBANH KNOW THAT (A) THE LAO REQUEST WAS RECEIVING THE FULLEST POSSPULE CONSIDERATION AND THAT (B) THERE IS REAL AND SERIOUS U.S. DOMESTIC OPPOSITION WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME IF THE REQUEST IS TO RECEIVE A FAVORABLE RESPONSE.
ROBERTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOODS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780017-0709
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From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780170/aaaacgzu.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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